APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER OF JURISDICTION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE OF WITHDRAWN LANDS RELINQUISHED BY THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA)

- 1. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District in its legal capacity, under delegation of authority by 10 U.S.C. § 2663, *et. seq.*, unless otherwise specified, as agent for the Department of the Air Force, hereby formally requests from the Secretary of the Interior, a transfer to the Department of the Air Force of withdrawn lands relinquished by the FAA by notice to the United States Department of the Interior, dated September 3, 1999.
- 2. This withdrawal modification by transfer application approval comes under the general authority of the Secretary of the Interior as specified in 43 U.S.C. § 1714.
- 3. The lands that are the subject of this application are to be reserved for use by the Department of the Air Force. The legal description is as follows:

A parcel of land described as the North ½ of the Northeast ¼ of the Southwest ¼ of the Southwest ¼ of the Southeast ¼ of Section 15, Township 17 South Range 45 West, Seward Meridian, Bristol Bay Borough, Kvichak Recording District, Third Judicial District, State of Alaska; said parcel more Particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the B.L.M. unapproved Southwest-Southeast 1/64 corner of said Section 15 also located on the West boundary of Lot 1, Block 1, King Salmon Creek Acres plat, filed 17th August 1979 as instrument 79-2, Kvichak Recording District and the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING;

Thence S 0/ 12' 55" E, along the East boundary of the Southwest ¼ of the Southwest ¼ of the Southeast ¼ of said Section 15 and the West boundary of said King Salmon Creek Aces, a distance of 165.12 feet to a point; thence N 89/56'37" W, a distance of 330.27 feet to a point; thence N 0/14'02" W, A distance of 165.19 feet to a point; thence S 89/55'55" E, a distance of 330.32 feet Southeast-Southeast 1/64 Corner of said Section 15 also located on the West boundary of said King Salmon Creek Acres and the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING and the terminus of this description. Contains 1.252 acres, more or less.

- 4. This application for withdrawal to transfer jurisdiction from FAA does not overlap, or add lands to another existing withdrawal.
- 5. The public purpose for the withdrawal is that the above referenced parcel is being used in conjunction for an environmental remediation project. The project requires long-term

exclusion of all vehicle traffic and most public access that could cause or exacerbate surface erosion. In most of the project area, the remediation concept is to preclude natural rainfall and snowmelt water from draining directly through the area where barrels and other debris have been buried. The construction plan involved the removal of surface debris, sloping of the upper edge of the bluffs to provide surface drainage and covering the area of buried debris with a waterproof membrane and as much as two feet of clean topsoil. The area was revegetated with sturdy grasses and native shrubbery. The very steep bluff area directly above King Salmon Creek will get a slightly different treatment. Because there is no wetland buffer between the buried debris and the creek, all debris was to be removed for a lateral distance of about thirty feet from the base of the existing bluff. The void created by this void was refilled with clean soil and the surface was to be treated the same as the rest of the project area, except that no waterproof membrane was to be used.

- 6. There is no evidence that this parcel of FAA property contains buried debris. The excavation of the bluff between this property and King Salmon Creek necessitated the sloping of the surface of a small area to provide surface drainage
- 7. All the above stated environmental remediation to this parcel was completed under permit between the FAA, Alaska Region and U.S. Army Engineer District, Alaska, number DTFA04-96-L-84040, North and South Barrel Bluffs Remediation Project, King Salmon Airport, Alaska, dated February 20, 1997.
- 8. The Air Force needs control of the property to the extent necessary to control access, primarily off-road vehicle traffic, for the life of the project, which is expected to be thirty years. The lands should be withheld from settlement, sale, location and entry. No other impact on the property is anticipated and there should be no need for additional restoration or environmental remediation.
- 9. Since the identified withdrawn lands have been the subject of an environmental remediation project which has a approximate thirty (30) year life span, there is neither a right-of-way under 43 U.S.C. § 1767, nor a cooperative agreement under 43 U.S.C. §§ 1732(b), 1737(b) would adequately provide for the proposed use.
- 10. There are not alternative sites for this project, which could be used. The Air Force has done extensive environmental work on this project and only needs to control public access, as stated above.
- 11. No water will be needed to fulfill the purposes of the requested withdrawal action.
- 12. Records relating to this application for modification of withdrawal may be examined by interested persons at the U.S. Army Engineer District, Alaska Headquarters, Real Estate Division, 2204 Third Street, Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506.